In the Claims:

5.3A3)

1. A method of modifying a first multimedia asset to form a second multimedia asset, comprising:

applying a multimedia asset processing command to the first multimedia asset to form the second multimedia asset; and

uniquely linking the first multimedia asset to the second multimedia asset using the multimedia asset processing command such that the first multimedia asset is derivable solely from the second multimedia asset.

2. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the applying further comprises:

determining if the first multimedia asset is associated with an edit list that includes the multimedia asset processing command;

retrieving the edit list;

processing the first multimedia asset using the multimedia asset processing command included in the edit list; and

outputting the processed first multimedia asset in the form of the second multimedia asset.

3. A method as recited in claim 2, wherein the linking comprises:

associating an edit list pointer with the second multimedia asset that points back to the edit list.

4. A method as recited in claim 2, wherein the linking comprises:

embedding the edit list in the second multimedia asset.

5. A method as recited in claim 2, wherein when the first multimedia asset does not have an associated edit list, or the associated edit list is empty, then the first multimedia asset is a reference multimedia asset(digital negative).

6. A method as recited in claim 2, wherein the applying is performed by a processor arranged to perform executable instructions.

7. A method as recited in claim 6, wherein the first multimedia asset and the second multimedia asset is a first digital image and a second digital image, respectively.

8. A method as recited in claim 7, wherein the multimedia processing command provides the processor with appropriate digital image processing instructions.

9. A method as recited in claim 8, wherein the processor is included in a host computer coupled to a distributed network of computers.

10. A method as recited in claim 9, wherein the second multimedia asset includes a watermark that includes the edit list.

11. A method as recited in claim 10, wherein the first digital image is stored in an image database included in a client computer coupled to the host computer.

12. A method as recited in claim 11, wherein the pointed to edit list is stored in an edit list database included in the host computer.

13. A method as recited in claim 12, wherein the first digital image is forwarded to the host computer wherein the processor processes the first digital image based upon processing instructions included in the pointed to edit list to form the second digital image.

14. A method as recited in claim 13, wherein the host computer further includes a decimator unit used to produce a low-resolution thumbnail image of the second digital image.

15. A method as recited in claim 14, wherein the thumbnail image is forwarded to the client computer and displayed on a display unit coupled thereto.

16. A method as recited in claim 15, wherein the second digital image is forwarded to the client computer based upon the thumbnail image.

17. A method as recited in claim 16, wherein the first digital image and the second digital image are each a first still digital image and a second still digital image, respectively.

18. A method as recited in claim 17, wherein the first still digital image is one of a first plurality of digital video images that taken together form a first video and wherein the second still digital is one of a second plurality of digital video images that taken together form a second video.

19. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the first multimedia asset is an audio asset and wherein the second multimedia asset includes the audio asset.

20. A digital image processing system, comprising:

an input controller arranged to,

receive an input digital data stream,

determine whether or not the input digital data stream includes a first digital image,

determine whether or not the input digital data stream includes a digital image processing instruction,

output a second digital image, and

output the digital image modification instruction;

an image processor coupled to the input controller arranged to receive the second digital image when the input data stream includes the digital image processing instruction; and

a digital image processing instruction processor coupled to the input controller and the image processor arranged to,

direct the input controller to output the second digital image to the image processor when it is determined that the input data stream includes the digital image processing instruction, and

provide the digital image processing instruction to the image processor, wherein the image processor modifies the second digital image based upon the digital image processing instruction to form an output digital data stream.

21. A digital image processing system as recited in claim 20, wherein when the input digital image stream includes the input digital image and does not include the digital image processing instruction, then the input digital image is a reference digital image (digital negative).

22. A digital image processing system as recited in claim 21, wherein the digital image processing instruction is one of a plurality of digital image processing instructions.

23. A digital image processing system as recited in claim 22, wherein the plurality of digital image processing instructions is included in an edit list.

24. A digital image processing system as recited in claim 23, further comprising wherein when the digital image processing instruction is an edit list pointer that points to the edit list, the image processor directs the input controller to fetch the edit list based upon the edit list pointer.

25. A digital image processing system as recited in claim 24, wherein when the digital image processing instruction is a digital image pointer that points to a location of the first digital image, the image processor directs the input controller to fetch the first digital image based upon the pointed to location.

26. A digital image processing system as recited in claim 25, wherein the digital image processing system is coupled to a host computer that is linked to a distributed network of computers.

27. A digital image processing system as recited in claim 26, wherein the distributed network of computers is an HTTP protocol type network of computers.

28. A digital image processing system as recited in claim 29, wherein the input digital data stream is generated by a digital appliance coupled to the host computer.

29. A digital image processing system as recited in claim 28, wherein the digital appliance generates the input digital image stream having an embedded digital image and an embedded edit list associated with the digital image, wherein the embedded edit list includes digital image processing instructions suitable for modification of the digital image.

30. A digital image processing system as recited in claim 29, wherein the input controller retrieves the embedded digital image and the associated edit list from the input digital image stream, processes the digital image based upon the retrieved digital image processing instructions, identifies and stores the processed image.

31. A digital image processing system as recited in claim 30, wherein a client computer coupled to the host computer retrieves the identified processed image.

32. A digital image processing system as recited in claim 28, wherein the digital appliance generates the input digital image stream having an embedded digital image and an associated embedded edit list pointer, wherein the embedded edit list pointer identifies an embedded edit list location of the embedded edit list that includes digital image processing instructions suitable for modification of the embedded digital image.

33. A digital image processing system as recited in claim 32, wherein the input controller retrieves the embedded digital image and the associated edit list based upon the embedded edit list pointer, processes the digital image based upon the retrieved digital image processing instructions, identifies, and stores the processed image.

34. A digital image processing system as recited in claim 33, wherein a client computer coupled to the host computer retrieves the identified processed image.

35. A digital image processing system as recited in claim 28, wherein the digital appliance is selected from a group comprising: a digital camera, a digital camcorder, a digital television, a digital photo scanner, photo-enabled set-top box, a photo enabled game machine, and a photo enabled internet device.